

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2950 - SB 3519

March 2, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Removes discretion from the trial judge as to whether to submit the issue of potential punitive damages to the trier of fact. Requires that one-half of all punitive damages awards be paid to the State for enhancement of the judiciary. Removes jurisdiction from the trial and appellate courts to modify in any way a jury award of punitive damages.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Revenues – Exceeds \$100,000 / Earmarked for
Judicial Operations**

Assumption:

- More than \$200,000 in total punitive damages will be paid each year. One-half of these funds will go to the State for improved judicial administration.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director